***Statement**-ll*

Statement referred to in reply to Part (a) of RaJya Sabha unstarred Question No. 2086 raised by Shri Jai Pdrkash Aggarwal, regarding Allocation of funds under Special Component Plan for 14.8.2006

Schemes implemented for ST welfare

1. Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (TSP)
2. Grant-in-aid to NGOs for Scheduled Tribes including Coaching and Allied etc.
3. Vocational Training in Tribal Areas
4. Educational Complex for low literacy pockets
5. Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship, Book Bank and Upgradation of Merit of ST students
6. Hostels for ST Boys/Girls
7. Establishment of Ashram schools in TSP areas
8. Grant-in-aid under Article 275(1) of the Constitution
9. Grant-in-aid to State Tribal Development Corporation for MFPs
10. Village Grain Banks
11. Development of Primitive Tribal Groups

Disadvantages of Tribals

2087. MISS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that disadvantages tribals face in life are area specific; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to bring about level playing field among the tribals themselves so that those with greater disadvantages are given additional support and able to make out a better living for themselves despite severe competition which they face among themselves?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Scheduled Tribes (ST) communities in the country face

disadvantages in life mainly because most of these communities inhabit areas of the country which are remote, hilly, undulating, forested and have tow density of population.

(b) The Government is implementing a number of Central Sector/ Centrally-Sponsored Schemes for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes. In order to put a policy framework in place to provide a level playing field for the Scheduled Tribes and to ensure their protection and development in an integrated and holistic manner, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has formulated the draft of a National Tribal Policy to address the issues concerning lower Human Development Indicators, poor infrastructure, diminishing control over natural resources, persistent threats of eviction from their habitat, etc.

The Ministry has also introduced the Scheduled Tribes (Recognition of Forest Rights) Bill, 2005 in the Lok Sabha on 13th December, 2005, to recognise and vest rights over land and forest produce in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded.

Draft Tribal Policy

†2088. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared the draft of tribal policy;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether it has been decided to invite suggestion from public in the draft; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has already formulated a draft of a National Tribal Policy covering all important issues that concern tribals, such as Alienation of Tribal Land; Tribal-Forest Interface; Displacement, Rehabilitation & Resettlement; Enhancement of Human Development Index; Creation of Critical Infrastructure; Violent Manifestations; Conservation & Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.